

Message Text

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ACTION STR-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 STRE-00 EB-03 OMB-01
TRSE-00 NSC-05 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 SP-02 L-01
/042 W
-----026355 300737Z /13

R 291656Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6227
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL COPENHAGEN 2049

LIMDIS

USEEC

FOR STR AMBASSADOR STRAUSS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD DN
SUBJ: MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 79980

1. YOUR LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER K.B.ANDERSEN (REFTEL) WAS
DELIVERED ON MARCH 29.

1. I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY LATER TO DISCUSS THE CONTENTS OF THE
LETTER WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY ERSBOLL AND HIS
DEPUTY OTTO MOLLER, BOTH OF WHOM WILL ACCOMPANY FOREIGN MINISTER
ANDERSEN TO THE APRIL 4 EC COUNCIL MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG. (OTTO
MOLLER CURRENTLY CHAIRS THE EC 113 COMMITTEE AND WILL BE THE
DANISH PRESIDENCY REPRESENTATIVE AT THE APRIL 10 MTN MEETING IN
GENEVA.)

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3. ERSBOLL AND MOLLER REPORTED THAT THE CRUX OF THE DISCUSSION OF
THE MTN AGENDA ITEM ON APRIL 4 WILL BE WITHDRAWALS AND IMPROVE-
MENTS OF THE EC TARIFF OFFER. FRANCE, THEY SAID, IS THE ONLY EC
MEMBER NOW PRESSING FOR WITHDRAWALS. ITALY AND THE UK, FORMERLY
FIRM ADVOCATES AS WELL, ARE NOW HESITANT AND ARE NO LONGER
PUSHING FOR WITHDRAWALS.

4. THE DANISH VIEW, WHICH ANDERSEN WILL PROBABLY ADVANCE AT THE EC COUNCIL MEETING, IS THAT BOTH WITHDRAWALS AND IMPROVEMENTS SHOULD BE PUT ON THE TABLE NOW SO THAT THE UNITED STATES ESPECIALLY, BUT ALSO JAPAN, CAN MAKE A REALISTIC EVALUATION OF THE EC TARIFF OFFER. ERSBOLL PREDICTED THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD AGREE TO "PLAY THESE TWO CARDS", IE, THAT THE EC WOULD GIVE THE US AND JAPAN LISTS OF ITS IMPROVEMENTS AND ITS WITHDRAWALS, BOTH OF WHICH WILL BE READY AT THE TIME OF THE APRIL 4 COUNCIL MEETING. (THEY STATED THAT THERE IS A REAL POSSIBILITY THAT THE EC 113 COMMITTEE WILL MEET AT THE SAME TIME AS THE COUNCIL IN ORDER TO HANDLE PROBLEMS ON THIS ISSUE THAT MIGHT ARISE.)

5. ERSBOLL AND MOLLER WILL BE RETURNING TO COPENHAGEN ON APRIL 5 AND HAVE OFFERED TO GIVE ME A READOUT THAT EVENING ON THE RESULTS OF THE EC COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS OF MTN. I WILL THEREFORE BE ABLE TO BRIEF YOU ON THIS MATTER WHEN YOU REACH COPENHAGEN ON APRIL 6.

6. ERSBOLL INFORMED ME THAT ALL OF THE MAJOR DETAILS FOR YOUR MEETINGS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER HAVE BEEN ARRANGED AND THAT A DEFINITIVE SCHEDULE WILL BE GIVEN TO ME WITHIN NEXT DAY OR TWO.

DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978COPENH02049
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780137-1052
Format: TEL
From: COPENHAGEN USEEC
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780315/aaaaameh.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a020febb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION STR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 79980
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3174075
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: ETRD, DA, US, MTN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a020febb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014